

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /081 W

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R 101045Z DEC 76

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2436

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS DURBAN 633

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: PINT SF (TRANSKEI)

SEUBJECT: NEW OPPOSITION PARTY ANNOUNCED

1. ANNOUNCEMENT REPORTEDLY SHORTLY WILL BE MADE REGARDING TRANSFORMATION OF THE TRANSKEI DEMOCRATIC PARTY (ONE OF THREE EXISTING OPPOSITION GROUPS) INTO A NEW POLITICAL MOVEMENT OPPOSING TRANSKEI PRIME MINISTER KAISER MATANZIMA. THE TRANSKEI DEMOCRATIC PARTY UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF HECTOR NCOKAZI (NOW DETAINED) CONTROLLED FIVE SEATS IN THE LAST PRE-INDEPENDENCE PARLIAMENT BUT HOLDS ONLY TWO SEATS (BOTH NOMINATED CHIEFS) IN THE PRESENT PARLIAMENT. ALL BUT TWO OF THE PARTY'S NATIONAL EXECUTIVE HAVE BEEN HELD IN DETENTION UNDER PROCLAMATION R400 SINCE JULY 27.

2. ACCORDING TO ONE OF PARTY'S TWO NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS NOT DETAINED, J. KOBO, NEW PARTY WILL BE ANNOUNCED WEEK OF DECEMBER 13. TO BE KNOWN AS "EXTERNAL WING" OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA, NEW PARTY WILL DISSOCIATE ITSELF FROM ALL TRANSKEI NATIONAL ASSEMBLY POLITICS AND EXIST INSTEAD FOR URBAN TRANSKEIANS. PARAMOUNT CHIEF SABATA DALINDYEBO, ONE OF TWO CURRENT DEMOCRATIC PARTY M.P.'S REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED HE WOULD SUPPORT NEW PARTY PLAN.

3. ACCORDING TO MR. KOBO, DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEMBERS FELT SUCH A MOVE WAS VITAL TO "CATER FOR THE INTERESTS AND WELFARE OF THE

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1.5 MILLION 'STATELESS' TRANSKEIANS RESIDING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

FURTHER, WE ARE DISSOCIATING OURSELVES FROM ANY POLITICS
REVOLVING AROUND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TRANSKEI, AND REGARD
OPPOSITION PARTY UNDER MR. CROMWELL DIKO AS A MERE MOUTHPIECE
OF THE TRANSKEI GOVERNMENT."

4. COMMENT: UNDER HECTOR NCOKAZI, OLD DEMOCRATIC PARTY
OPPOSED INDEPENDENCE FOR TRANSKEI AND ESPOUSED A UNITARY,
NON-RACIAL SOUTH AFRICA, ABOLITION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS. IN ITS AIMS THE NEW PARTY SEEMS TO
PURSUE THESE SAME GOALS WHILE POSING AS AN "EXTERNAL WING"
OF A PARTY THEORETICALLY ACTIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF.
NCOKAZI'S PRECISE ROLE IN NEW PARTY'S DIRECTION IS UNCLEAR.
HE IS STILL IN DETENTION, ALTHOUGH AFTER HE TESTIFIED FOR
THE TRANSKEI GOVERNMENT IN A TRIAL OF FIVE ACCUSED PARO-
COMMUNIST TRANSKEIANS IN LATE NOVEMBER, A REPORT CIRCULATED
THAT HE MIGHT SOON BE RELEASED. PRIME MINISTER MATANZIMA'S
REACTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW PARTY HAS NOT YET BEEN
REPORTED. IT MAY BE HARSH.
FARBER

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